



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



January 2006

Location	Date	Time	Path	Path	Number of		Estimated		Character of Storm
		Local/ Standard	Length (Miles)	Width (Yards)	Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

KENTUCKY, Northeast

KYZ101>103

Greenup - Carter - Boyd

23	0230EST 0630EST	0	0	Flood
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A 12 to 24 hour rain event started during the afternoon of the 22nd, then diminished to drizzle during the morning of the 23rd. Rain amounts of over 2 inches were common. Olive Hill measured 2.3 inches, Warnock had 2.27 inches, Grayson observed 2.15 inches, and Ashland had 2.0 inches.

Streams flooded roads and surrounded a few vulnerable homes, trailers, and outbuildings. No significant damage occurred. Some of the streams included Straight Creek and Bolts Fork in Boyd County, Tygarts Creek in Greenup County, and Little Fork near Willard of Carter County.

A strong rise occurred on the Little Sandy River, cresting at Grayson around 19.4 feet later on the 23rd. Flood state is 21 feet at Grayson.

OHIO, Southeast

OHZ087

Lawrence

23	0315EST 0645EST	0	0	Flood
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A 12 to 24 rain event started during the late afternoon on the 22nd, then diminished to drizzle during the morning on the 23rd. Rains amounts on either side of 2 inches were common across the county. South Point measured 2.22 inches, while Waterloo had 1.94 inches.

Streams flooded roads and surrounded a few homes and trailers. No significant damage occurred. Route 141 was closed around Arabia and Route 49 around Pedro. The Rock Hill School District did not open for the day, while some others were on a 2 hour delay.

VIRGINIA, Northwest

NONE REPORTED.

WEST VIRGINIA, West

Upshur County

Sago	02	0625EST 0630EST	0	0	Lightning
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An underground explosion occurred at the Sago Coal Mine. A warm front was pushing through West Virginia at the time, triggering showers and rare early morning January thunderstorms. Predawn temperatures were in the 40s. Sensors from the National Lightning Detection Network indicated a few cloud to ground strikes in the vicinity. A strong positively charge bolt occurred around 0626E, followed a few seconds later by a minor seismic event. Local residents reported that their houses shook. The U.S. Geological Survey Advanced National Seismic System sensor at Mont Chateau along Cheat Lake near Morgantown, recorded the event most clearly.

The initial underground blast may have killed one coal miner. Twelve other miners were trapped in the mine after the explosion. Eleven of those miners were likely asphyxiated by carbon monoxide, as they waited to be rescued. One of the younger miners survived more than 36 hours in the mine, and was hospitalized.

Lightning was being investigated as the most likely cause of the initial ignition. If so, then 12 deaths can be indirectly attributed to lightning. However, as of early February, the investigation was still ongoing, and the final determination of the cause had not been determined.

There have been cases in the past, where lightning energy was transferred into underground coal mines, and caused seals from



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WEST VIRGINIA, West

worked out areas to blow.

WVZ036>040-046>047

Fayette - Nicholas - Webster - Upshur - Barbour - Pocahontas - Randolph

24 2200EST
25 2200EST

0 0

Winter Weather/Mix

A brief intrusion of cold air during a mild January, caused upslope snow showers. Accumulations of 2 to 6 inches were widespread, causing school delays and a few closures. Elkins had a 4 inch snow accumulation. However, across the highest elevations, around a foot of snow was deposited. Snowshoe had a 13 inch snow depth, while Kumbrabow State Forest measured 14 inches.